

Today's Topics:

ARRL Membership?
Bandwidth grudgingly given (3 msgs)
Event communications (was Re: new Part 97)
Heathkit name change?
policing CB
USING THE YAESU FT767GX FOR OSCAR
VW alternator
Weather Radio

Date: 16 Oct 89 03:55:02 GMT

From: pilchuck!ssc!tad@uunet.uu.net (Tad Cook)

Subject: ARRL Membership?

In article <228@ssc.UUCP>, tad@ssc.UUCP(Tad Cook) writes:

>

(ARRL'sMCIMAILaddressdeleted)

>>

>> Also, regarding all the whining over the cutbacks of "New Frontier",
>> this represented about 8% of what they cut. If this represented
>> the interests of a large percentage of the readership, they would
>> not have cut it. As it is, microwave operation is done by a tiny
>> percentage of ARRL members, yet the league is continuing to support
>> it with other publications.

Dave, KD5R0 Sez:

>Tad, you apparently are not a microwave enthusiast. That's fine, and
>you are certainly free to enjoy whatever part of ham radio you are
>involved with. I strongly suspect, however, that if your "niche"
>in this hobby were threatened (whether it be DX, Packet, SSTV, RTTY
>or whatever), you would also "whine" (your words not mine-see above).

Tad sez:

Well really, I am not anti-microwave. I was just responding when a member of this net posted what I felt was a very high handed and sanctimonious attack on what is essentially a volunteer organization (the ARRL) and one of it's hard working paid employees. (Then he posted a message to me telling me that the ARRL is NOT a volunteer organization because they employ paid staff!) I felt that the reality of budget constraints was not an unreasonable excuse for cutting pages in QST. I can only imagine the WHINING on this net if they had decided to raise

dues instead!

Actually, ONE of my "niches" is RTTY, but you don't see me writing nasty letters to ARRL staff and ending my membership because they only cover RTTY in feature articles! (as they do microwaves).

Dave sez:

>It is true, to a degree, that the League is publishing SOME microwave
>oriented material, in the form of proceedings of the various VHF/
>UHF/Microwave conferences. This is a GIANT step in the right
>direction.

Tad sez:

The League is continuing to publish MORE microwave material than when the monthly column was started. There currently is a LOT of microwave coverage in the Handbook, which should do much to reach those of us who are not on SHF yet. The coverage in QST feature articles has been good too.

Really, I am not in favor of cutting microwave coverage. It just seemed that the posting by the fellow who was quitting the ARRL because they made a decision he didn't like was a bit shrill and unreasonable.

Another interesting thing about this whole thread was the complaint that the ARRL didn't care about getting input from USENET, when really the comment was that there was one staffer at HQ who had played with USENET and could not distribute mail throughout the building from his desktop PC.

No matter how many times I posted the ARRL MCI Mail address accessible from USENET, I still read comments that "they don't care". (Dave, I am digressing a bit here, and not directing this to you!)

I'll post it again:

2155052@mcimail.com

All of the ARRL board and management are on MCI Mail, and can be reached from USENET. For instance, wanna reach the ARRL Pres? Larry Price can be reached via:

2155162@mcimail.com

Dave Sumner, ARRL executive VP can be reached at:

2646149@mcimail.com

Well, I've raised enough hell for today! That's all.

73,

Tad Cook
KT7H @ N7HFZ
MCI Mail: 3288544
tad@ssc.UUCP

Date: 15 Oct 89 07:28:19 GMT
From: attctc!jolnet!swan@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Joel Swan)
Subject: Bandwidth grudgingly given

In article <30500235@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu> phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu writes:
:
:> Along those same lines, I drove cross country last year on an 8500
:> mile trip and found that once you are not in a Metro area, the CB channels,
:> and I mean litterally all the channels, go silent.
:
:Something must be wrong with the front end of your receiver. Granted there
:are definitely some dead spots in the country, but I live outside of the
:major metro areas and the channels are still quite crowded. It depends on
:where you go. Here in Urbana-Champaign, I hear usually 5 or 6 active CB
:channels during an evening. When visting my parents in West Viginia in a
:town of 6000 people, there are often 12 or more busy channels. Incidentally
:there is more two meter repeater activity there as well.
:
:--Phil howard-- <phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>
:~..~ - -- ~..~
:~..~..~ --. -. .- - ..- .-. . ..-. .. .-... .

I would have to concure with the first poster. In the last 2.5 years
I've driven Chicago-Fairbanks-Chicago, Chicago-Halifax-Chicago,
and Chicago-Key West-Chicago and have found this;
In the metropolitan areas, you could fit all extant conversation on a total
of 3-8 channels. In the rural areas, other than channel 19, there was
almost NO use of the remaining channels. My trips included heavy
urban areas (New York City) as well as desolate outback (Yukon Province)
and silence is what we heard the most (I like to scab the channels a lot
so that was no problem either). Could be that the Urbana area has some
"hard-core" CB fans. BTW- there's nothing wrong with my transceiver,

it works fine.

Joel
(HD is down, no .sig file)

Date: 16 Oct 89 07:02:23 GMT
From: ka9q.bellcore.com!karn@bellcore.com (Phil Karn)
Subject: Bandwidth grudgingly given

In article <6399.252CBEB@stjhmc.fidonet.org> Jim.Grubs@f1.n234.z1.fidonet.org (Jim Grubs) writes:

>Not to belittle Preacher's friends, but fires, like heart attacks, hurricanes
>and tornadoes, are among those universal human tragedies which cause everyone
>to drop 'business as usual' and pitch in to help.

Or "drop business as usual" and pitch in with unsolicited H&W traffic, or to act as a self-appointed policeman, or even to deliberately jam an emergency net and generally make life even more miserable for those trying to do some good.

The more I listen around, the less and less difference I can hear between the ham bands and CB. The hams are not all as pristine as they would have you believe. Even more astoundingly, not all CBers are the Neanderthals that the hams would have you believe they are. In particular, listen to the SSB activity on the high end of the (legal) CB band and in the (illegal) freeband portion. Except for the lack of callsigns and the apparent inability to standardize on a particular sideband, I challenge anyone to tell the difference between these guys and typical HF ham QSOs. I sure can't.

Phil

Date: 16 Oct 89 13:18:32 GMT
From: gem.mps.ohio-state.edu!uakari.prima.wisc.edu!ctrsol!emory!stiatl!rsiatl!jgd@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (John G. De Armond)
Subject: Bandwidth grudgingly given

In article <17893@bellcore.bellcore.com> karn@ka9q.bellcore.com (Phil Karn) writes:

>

>The more I listen around, the less and less difference I can hear between
>the ham bands and CB. The hams are not all as pristine as they would have
>you believe. Even more astoundingly, not all CBers are the Neanderthals that
>the hams would have you believe they are. In particular, listen to the SSB

>activity on the high end of the (legal) CB band and in the (illegal)
>freeband portion. Except for the lack of callsigns and the apparent
>inability to standardize on a particular sideband, I challenge anyone to
>tell the difference between these guys and typical HF ham QSOs. I sure
>can't.
>
>Phil

Good point, Phil. While we're at it, I've always wondered about another aspect. On CB, when one tries to talk while someone else is transmitting, we call it "walking on him" and rude and neanderthal and just totally disgusting. On the ham bands, on the other hand, we call it DX and contesting pileups and have magazines dedicated to the sport (QST) and newsletters and such and call it a "good thing". What's the difference.

Another question. If a CB'er gets himself a 'lineer, we call him a slime-bag and wish the full might of the FCC on him and would put him in jail longer than a rapist. If, on the other hand, a ham gets a "California Kilowatt" complete with the 480 volt 3 phase utility drop to run it, we say he has a "nice, loud signal" and secretly plan to get one just like him. Again, what's the difference?

Just sittin' here musing over the first cup of coffee....

John

--
John De Armond, WD40QC | Manual? ... What manual !!?
Radiation Systems, Inc. Atlanta, GA | This is Unix, My son, You
gatech!stiatl!rsiatl!jgd **I am the NRA** | just GOTTA Know!!!

Date: 15 Oct 89 15:26:27 GMT
From: texbell!splut!jay@rutgers.edu (Jay "you ignorant splut!" Maynard)
Subject: Event communications (was Re: new Part 97)

In article <185@cvman.prime.com> gdelong@cvman.prime.com (Gary Delong) writes:
>Now 97.113(a)(1) indicates that "public service" activities must be
>limited to those where "the principal beneficiary of such communications
>is the public and any benefit to the sponsoring organization is incidental."

>That seems to be just the opposite of what communications occur at most
>public service activites I have seen in the past. The vast majority
>of communications have been in support of the logistics of running the
>event.

>Comments from you "public service" types?

I guess I'm qualified to talk about this one...since I got home about 4 hours ago from directing emergency medical services for the 17th annual Houston Moonlight Bicycle Ramble; we use amateur radio heavily. This was my 13th Ramble; I've served in capacities from net control to chairman of the event. The Ramble is a roughly 20-mile fun ride through the streets of Houston; it gets its name from the fact that it starts at 2 AM on the Sunday morning closest to the full moon in October.

Ham radio, to a very large extent, makes the Ramble both possible and safe for the 6500 riders we typically have. We run two nets: one, called the spotter net, is used to relay information about hazards, accidents, and riders desiring pickup from hams scattered approximately one per mile along the course to a central command post, and the second, called the sag/medical net, is used to dispatch roving pickup truck/trailer combinations, called sag wagons, to pick up riders who need a ride back to the starting point, as well as roving EMTs, who respond to the scene of any injured cyclist. This year, we had 22 spotters, 8 sag wagons, and 4 medics. I don't have stats on how many riders made use of the sag wagons, but I do know that we had 4 medical calls, with nobody requiring transport to the hospital via ambulance and only one patient who was taken to the hospital at all. We coordinate closely with the Houston Fire Department to make sure our EMS services mesh well with their ambulance service, and take some of the load off of them.

I feel that this use of ham radio falls well within the scope of 97.113(a)(1), because the overall effect is to greatly improve the level of safety for the riders. Without it, we would not be able to operate, since there would be no way for the riders to quickly summon aid.

BTW, we do make sure that ham radio gets plenty of publicity; this isn't hard for us, since there are 3 hams as committee chairs, as well as the ride chairman...

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Jay Maynard, EMT-P, K5ZC, PP-ASEL | Never ascribe to malice that which can
jay@splut.commicro.com (eieio)| adequately be explained by stupidity.
{attctc,bellcore}!texbell!splut!jay +-----
"Then I went to drive her home...but LBJ's too narrow after nine Coronas..."

Date: 15 Oct 89 13:19:51 GMT
From: wa3wbu!john@uunet.uu.net (John Gayman)
Subject: Heathkit name change?

In article <2278@cbnews1.ATT.COM>, hawk@cbnews1.ATT.COM (james.p.hawkins) writes:
> >
> > Now that Zenith is selling its Heath business to Clendes Machines Bull,
> > will Heathkit become Bullkit? :-)
> > --

In the October 9 issue of Info World there is a story stating that Groupe Bull will be keeping the name of Zenith for the computer line. This came from Bull Exec V.P. Gerald Vennard. No mention was made of the Heathkit kit line.

John

--
John Gayman, WA3WBU | UUCP: uunet!wa3wbu!john
1869 Valley Rd. | ARPA: john@wa3wbu.uu.net
Marysville, PA 17053 | Packet: WA3WBU @ WB3EAH

Date: 14 Oct 89 02:00:36 GMT
From: njsmu!telesci!kindred@princeton.edu (David L Kindred (Dave))
Subject: policing CB

In article <6800@ttidca.TTI.COM> sorgatz@ttidca.TTI.COM (Avatar) writes:
In article <8910110718.AA27974@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU> IZZYH79@OAC.UCLA.EDU writes:

[stuff about the FCC and ARRL not doing anything about illegal operations on and near 10m band deleted]

In additional area of concern here is that there appears to be a group of truck people taking over Marine FM frequencies in the inland areas. I somehow suspect that the reason behind Radio Shack going into Marine FM and 10m ham gear is the ILLEGAL market, rather than the legal market.

I myself am one of the people trying to move towards ham from CB, and if my work load ever drops low enough that I have time to eat, i'll finish studying to get licensed. In the meantime, I have never considered running illegally in any band (except for the rare fantasy of building a transmitter sufficiently powerful to melt the equipment of the scum with the linear on 27mhz...I guess we all have something to dream about).

One thing to be careful about is creating 'bad press' towards radio in general. A misguided attack on illegals could be picked up
